

## Message Text

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ORIGIN AF-08

INFO OCT-01 ISO-00 TRSE-00 ACDA-07 AID-05 EB-07 IGA-02  
MC-02 OMB-01 CIAE-00 PM-04 H-01 INR-07 L-03 NSAE-00  
NSC-05 PA-01 PRS-01 SP-02 SS-15 USIA-06 /078 R

DRAFTED BY AF/C:JSBLODGETT:LAR  
APPROVED BY AF/C:TRBUCHANAN  
DOD/ISA:JREED (DRAFT)  
PM/SAS:DHESTER (DRAFT)  
DOD/DSAA:HGUILD (DRAFT)  
-----192330Z 104456 /70  
P R 192202Z JAN 77  
FM SECSTATE WASHDC  
TO AMEMBASSY LIBREVILLE PRIORITY  
INFO AMEMBASSY KINSHASA  
SECDEF WASHDC

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E.O. 11652: N/A

TAGS: MILI, MASS, GB

SUBJECT:FY 1977 FMS FINANCING FOR GABON

1. ON JANUARY 17, GABONESE COUNSELOR OF EMBASSY ABESSOLO MET, AT HIS REQUEST, WITH REPRESENTATIVES OF DOD/ISA, DOD/DSAA, AND AF/C TO DISCUSS IMPLEMENTATION OF 2 MILLION DOLLAR FY 1977 FMS FINANCING PROGRAM FOR GABON. ABESSOLO SAID EMBASSY HAD BEEN ASKED BY GOG TO OBTAIN QUOTE CATALOG UNQUOTE OF ALL EQUIPMENT PROCURABLE UNDER FMS FINANCING, WITH PRICE AND BUDGETARY (P AND B) DATA. HE PLACED PARTICULAR EMPHASIS ON DELIVERY TIME, EXPLAINING THAT GOG HAD URGENT DESIRE TO OBTAIN AS MUCH EQUIPMENT AS POSSIBLE PRIOR TO AUGUST, 1977 INDEPENDENCE DAY CELEBRATIONS.  
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2. SINCE NO QUOTE CATALOG UNQUOTE EXISTS IN RELEASABLE FORM, AND IN ANY CASE COULD NOT INCLUDE P AND B DATA, USG REPS SUGGESTED THAT GOG DIRECT ITS ATTENTION INSTEAD TO LIST OF PRIORITY DEFENSE ARTICLES PREPARED BY USG MILITARY SURVEY TEAM, IN COLLABORATION WITH GOG, IN JANUARY 1976. PARTICULAR REFERENCE WAS MADE TO PAGES IV-1 THROUGH IV-7

OF SURVEY TEAM REPORT (FRENCH VERSION), LISTING ITEMS OF HIGHEST PRIORITY. ALTHOUGH GOG NEED NOT NECESSARILY LIMIT ITSELF TO THOSE ITEMS, (FYI - NOR IS USG COMMITTED TO PROVIDING ALL OR ANY THE ITEMS WHICH WOULD HAVE TO BE REVIEW-

ED ON CASE BY CASE BASIS ONCE REQUEST IS RECEIVED - END FYI), THEY REFLECT BEST CURRENT UNDERSTANDING OF GOG NEEDS. DOD/DSA UNDERTOOK TO PREPARE, UPON RECEIPT OF LETTER FROM GABONESE EMBASSY, ROUGH RPT ROUGH CURRENT P AND B DATA FOR EACH ITEM OF EQUIPMENT LISTED ON ABOVE PAGES (THIS COMPILATION REQUIRES 30 DAYS' LEAD TIME AND PRIOR STATE DEPT APPROVAL). IT WAS AGREED THAT GOG WOULD THEN BE IN BETTER POSITION TO NARROW ITS REQUEST DOWN TO SPECIFIC ITEMS OF EQUIPMENT TOTALLING 2 MILLION DOLLARS. USG REPS ALSO INDICATED READINESS TO GIVE CASE BY CASE CONSIDERATION TO ANY GOG REQUEST FOR FMS CASH PURCHASES BEYOND 2 MILLION AVAILABLE UNDER FMS FINANCING.

3. THROUGHOUT MEETING, ABESSOLO INDICATED PARTICULAR GOG CONCERN FOR DELIVERY TIMES. IN RESPONSE, USG REPS STRONGLY EMPHASIZED THAT: (A) FEW IF ANY ITEMS AVAILABLE QUOTE IN STOCK UNQUOTE; (B) GOG SHOULD THEREFORE EXPECT THAT ANY EQUIPMENT PURCHASES WOULD HAVE TO BE FROM NEW PROCUREMENT; AND (C) DELIVERY TIMES VARY ACCORDING TO EQUIPMENT, BUT ARE RARELY SHORTER THAN TWELVE MONTHS.

4. COMMENT: DEPT IS AWARE OF EMBASSY'S INTENTION TO APPROACH GOG FORMALLY DURING MONTH OF JANUARY, IN COORDINATION WITH DAO KINSHASA, RE FY 1977 FMS FINANCING. WE LIMITED OFFICIAL USE

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REGARD INFORMATION-GATHERING EXERCISE OF GABONESE EMBASSY IN WASHINGTON AS SUPPLEMENTARY TO MAIN EFFORT IN LIBREVILLE. KISSINGER

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## Message Attributes

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**Channel Indicators:** n/a  
**Current Classification:** UNCLASSIFIED  
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**Disposition Date:** 22 May 2009  
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**Original Handling Restrictions:** n/a  
**Original Previous Classification:** n/a  
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**Review Markings:**  
Margaret P. Grafeld  
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22 May 2009  
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